



Gaping Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2JQ

Tel: 01462 456737

Email: [admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk](http://www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

## NEWSLETTER

No. 9 July 2019

Dear Parents,

As we have come to the end of term and another academic year at Samuel Lucas, it is a time for celebration and reflection. The reflection undoubtedly will bring mixed emotions as we say goodbye to Year 6 and to some members of staff. Miss Swinburne and Mrs Foster leave us tomorrow to embark on new challenges and we wish them both luck in their new jobs.

We also say goodbye to four members of staff who are retiring. A big thank you to Mrs Bradbury and Mrs Wilshere who have both been working with our Reception classes and wish them both the best for the future. Ms Holland who has worked as a Teaching Assistant in school and more recently, worked as part of the school office. She is retiring after working at Samuel Lucas for 13 years. Mrs Evans is our longest standing member of staff and she is retiring after 19 years with the school. Mrs Evans has made a huge difference in so many children's lives. Both will be sadly missed by the children, staff and Samuel Lucas community.



**I am sure you would all like to join us in wishing them all a  
Happy Retirement!**

Welcome to Mr Allan who joined the school as a Teaching Assistant in July. We also have more new staff joining the Samuel Lucas team in September. Miss Clapp will be teaching in Year 3 - Ash class; Mrs Easton and Mrs Reid will be teaching Year 2 - Hawthorn Class. Mrs Aynsley who will be covering Mrs Fisher's leadership time in Reception – Willow class. Miss Adam will be the new school Receptionist and Miss Gray will be joining as a Teaching Assistant. We look forward to working them.

### **Samuel Lucas Presents A Midsummer Night's Dream (A Shakespeare 4 kidz production)**



It is with great pride that the production team can reflect on the success of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The pupils were incredible throughout the rehearsal and performance process. The amount of dedication, enthusiasm and teamwork was inspiring and we have heard the murmurings of the songs being repeated around the school since.

### What's new at Samuel Lucas next year?

At Samuel Lucas we strive to provide the best opportunities for our pupils. Therefore next year we will be introducing the following:

- A whole school reading project
- Eco-Schools - Part of Keep Britain Tidy
- Tapestry - an online journal to help record all the learning and fun of children's early years education
- Even more sporting opportunities
- Raising profile of Music
- New learning area – our 'Summer House'
- Parent Forums are returning and will be run by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Kenny
- More lunchtime clubs – Art Club, Science Club, Lego Club to name but a few!



**More details on 'What's New' will follow in September.**

### Sports Update from Mr Smith

Across the whole school in July, all of the children have spent time in their PE lessons preparing themselves for Sports day. The focus hasn't just been on the skills we have to use but also displaying some of our important values such as teamwork, respect and self-belief.

### **Sports Day 2019**



What a great day! It was an absolute joy to watch the children express themselves with a smile on their face and show the range of skills they have acquired and developed across the school year. Every child I saw, whether it be at a skills station or during a race performed brilliantly and gave me a real sense of pride at how well they have done this year and the progress they have made.

### **County Finals - Friday 5th July**

As a result of our Hockey team winning the North Herts district tournament we were invited to the Hertfordshire County Finals to represent North Herts. We made the journey to Oaklands College in St.Albans full of confidence and with a few butterflies at what the day might have in store for us.

After an inspiring opening ceremony and daily mile warm up, we took to the field. All of the district winners were split into two groups and to make the Semi Final we needed to finish in the top 2 places. After winning 3 matches (4-0, 4-0 and 6-2) and drawing 1 (2-2) we placed second on goal difference and made the Semi Final. We unfortunately lost 4-1 in a tough match but regrouped brilliantly to win the 3rd/4th place playoff 5-1 and take the bronze medal!

I could not be prouder of this group of children who pushed themselves as far as they could go to succeed and they thoroughly deserve their medal and the recognition for their achievement.



### **School Games Mark Award**

We were absolutely delighted to receive the news that we have been awarded the Gold School Games Mark award for 2018/19 for our commitment, engagement and delivery of school sport! It wouldn't have been possible without the support and commitment from Mrs Thomas and all of the staff as well as the effort and application from all of our fantastic children. I would like to finish by saying I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as PE coach at Samuel Lucas and I look forward to continuing to improve and develop sport, PE and physical activity in the school.



Have a great summer!

Mr.Smith

## Results

(National and Herts Data is still provisional at this stage and subject to minor changes)

### EYFS :

	Herts 2019 (%)	National 2019 (%)	Samuel Lucas 2019 (%)
Good Level of Development	72	71.5	78

### Key Stage 1 :

Subject	Performance Descriptor	Herts 2019 (%)	National 2019 (%)	Samuel Lucas 2019 (%)
Reading (Teaching Assessment)	Expected Standard +	78	76	75
	Greater Depth	32	26	40
Writing (Teacher Assessment)	Expected Standard +	72	70	71.7
	Greater Depth	20	16	23.3
Mathematics (Teacher Assessment)	Expected Standard +	78	76	76.7
	Greater Depth	26	22	28.3

### Key Stage 2 :

Subject	Performance Descriptor	Herts 2019 (%)	National 2019 (%)	Samuel Lucas 2019 (%)
Reading (Test)	Expected Standard +	76.2	73.1	83.9
	Higher Standard*	30.8	26.9	25.8
Writing (Teacher Assessment)	Expected Standard +	79.2	78.4	87.1
	Greater Depth	24.6	20.1	35.5
Mathematics (Test)	Expected Standard +	79.5	78.6	87.1
	Higher Standard*	29.3	26.6	38.7
RWM combined	Expected Standard +	66.5	64.8	71
	Higher Standard*	13.1	10.5	19.4
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Test)	Expected Standard +	79.3	78	93.5
	Higher Standard*	37.1	34	51.6

'Higher standard' has been assumed to mean a scaled score of 110 or above. However this will be confirmed by the DfE in the Autumn Term.

I would like to thank all the staff across the school, including our Teaching Assistants for all their hard work and commitment to giving the very best opportunities to your children.

### Musical Success

Congratulations to all our children who have taken part in music lessons this academic year; your performances during the Open Evening were brilliant. I know a number of you have taken musical examinations and I hope you all continue to achieve and be the best that you can. We have been informed that the following children have been successful in their recent exams:

Eva Sims	Grade 1- Merit	Clarinet
Isobel Woolass	Grade 1- Merit	Clarinet
Vertity Proctor	Grade 1- Distinction	Clarinet
Imogen Proctor	Grade 3- Merit	Flute
Sadie Lait	Grade 3- Merit	Flute

Well Done!

## Attendance

Attendance at Samuel Lucas continues to be good with our whole school figure at 97.5%. May I remind parents to avoid booking holidays or medical appointments during school times, especially during registration time, wherever possible.

Class	% Attendance
Lilac	97.4
Willow	97.9
Hazel	96.8
Birch	97.5
Hawthorn	97.6
Oak	97.0
Elm	97.6
Ash	97.6
Larch	97.7
Pine	97.6
Maple	97.8
Walnut	97.8
Year 6	97.6

Well done to Willow classes who top the attendance table for this academic year!

## Moving On 2020

Information for parents with children in year 5 about moving up to secondary school in September 2020 will be available after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 at:

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

## A message from the SLPA

First, a great big well done to everyone for all the fundraising achieved this year. Whether you've bought tickets for an event, donated a gift, volunteered or bought an ice-pop, the combined efforts from us all have made a huge difference to the experiences our children have enjoyed.

## **Summer Picnic and BBQ**

Thank you to everyone who came to the event and especially to those that volunteered or helped with putting the event together. Lots of fun was had by all and it was wonderful to see the families of Samuel Lucas enjoying themselves together. This event made £2509.94. We are thrilled to tell you that the rubbish that was unable to be recycled from the event all fitted in one general waste wheelie bin. All other waste was sorted and could be recycled and is heading to the recycling plant.

So in real terms-

Non recycled....240 litres

Recycled.....900 litres

For a 4.5 hour event with 500 people, this is a fantastic achievement, thank you all for helping with sorting your waste in the correct bins and also for bringing your own picnic ware where possible.

### Tea-towels and Coasters

Thank you to everyone who has purchased these, we made a whopping £1498.91. Dilly thank you again for all your hard work.

### Ice-pop Sales

Thank you to all those that purchased ice-pops, the sales made £188.70

### Year 6 Performance Bar

Thank you to those that bought drinks, served and set the bar up, this made £446

Lastly, thank you to all those parents, children and school staff that have supported us in our first year running The SLPA. We have learned so much and have really enjoyed our year. If you have any feedback for us, please write down and put in the SLPA box and we will read them and use them to help us evaluate our events for next year.

If you would like to be involved in organising fundraising activities next academic year, we would love to see you in September at our first meeting.

Have a wonderful summer and we will see you in September when we will start selling tickets for the first ever Samuel Lucas Colour Run, being put together by us and Mr Smith at the moment.

Happy Holidays.

The SLPA

### Term Dates 2019/2020

<b>Autumn Term</b>	
INSET Day*	Monday 2nd September
INSET Day*	Tuesday 3rd September
Children return to school	Wednesday 4th September
Half-Term break	Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 20th December
<b>Spring Term</b>	
Children return to school	Monday 6th January
Half-Term break	Monday 17th – Friday 21st February
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 3rd April

<b>Summer Term</b>	
INSET Day*	Monday 20th April
Children return to school	Tuesday 21st April
Bank Holiday	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May
Half-Term break	Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May
Occasional Day*	Friday 19th June
Term Ends 2pm	Friday 17th July
INSET Day*	Monday 20th July
INSET Day*	Tuesday 21st July

\*Children do not attend school on INSET Days or on the OCCASIONAL day

### **Parent Forum Meetings**

Parent Forum meetings will resume in the autumn term. The meetings will now be held by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Kenny, please see dates below:

- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 2pm
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 2pm
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 2pm

### **Parent Information Evenings**

Parent information evenings will take place on the following dates:

- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019 7pm – 8pm for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 7pm – 8pm for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Full diary dates will be published in our start of term newsletter in September.

Yours sincerely,

*Tracy Thomas*

Tracy Thomas  
Headteacher